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TITLE: Dynamic Gain Equalization for MAN/WAN using WDMA and Semiconductor Optical Amplifier

TBTX:

This document contains drawings, figures, and/or symbols that will not appear on line. Request for complete article. - Disclosed is a dynamic gain equalization scheme using planar gratings and semiconductor optical amplifiers to overcome the near-far problem in transmission spectra present in a local area network or wide area network. The potential near-far problem where signals originating from different locations experience different attenuation. Furthermore, fibers in such a network also have nonflat gain spectra. Different wavelengths experience different gain even though they travel through the same physical path. Most of the existing studies on gain equalization have focused on optical amplifiers. Gain equalization using fiber gratings and a 3+ fiber amplifier was proposed in [1] where a large equalization bandwidth is achieved. Two-stage gain equalization was proposed in [2] to overcome the gain peaks of pump power. The optical signal gain can also be achieved through controlling the spectra of the optical filters. A gain equalized 29-channel WDM system using a Mach-Zehnder Interferometer and a tunable filter (AOTF) has also been proposed. AOTF has also been used to equalize gain spectra for a very wide transmission bandwidth. Through the injection of multiple RF frequencies, a dynamic transmission characteristic can be achieved. The essence of this scheme, however, is limited by the resolution of an AOTF. Fig. 1 shows the proposed dynamic gain equalization scheme. The incoming multiple optical signals are demultiplexed into multiple wavelength channels, each of which is responsible for the gain adjustment. The gain-equalized signals are then multiplexed back into a single output. The essence of this scheme is on the dynamic adjustment of the gain of each wavelength channel through modifying the injection

of a dynamic gain equalization scheme using planar gratings and semiconductor optical amplifiers to overcome the near-far problem in transmission spectra present in a local area network or wide area network. The potential near-far problem where signals originating from different locations experience different attenuation. Furthermore, fibers in such a network also have nonflat gain spectra. Different wavelengths experience different gain even though they travel through the same physical path. Most of the existing studies on gain equalization have focused on optical amplifiers. Gain equalization using fiber gratings and a 3+ fiber amplifier was proposed in [1] where a large equalization bandwidth is achieved. Two-stage gain equalization was proposed in [2] to overcome the gain peaks of pump power. The optical signal gain can also be achieved through controlling the spectra of the optical filters. A gain equalized 29-channel WDM system using a Mach-Zehnder Interferometer and a tunable filter (AOTF) has also been proposed. AOTF has also been used to equalize gain spectra for a very wide transmission bandwidth. Through the injection of multiple RF frequencies, a dynamic transmission characteristic can be achieved. The essence of this scheme, however, is limited by the resolution of an AOTF. Fig. 1 shows the proposed dynamic gain equalization scheme. The incoming multiple optical signals are demultiplexed into multiple wavelength channels, each of which is responsible for the gain adjustment. The gain-equalized signals are then multiplexed back into a single output. The essence of this scheme is on the dynamic adjustment of the gain of each wavelength channel through modifying the injection

Furthermore, the gain of the optical amplifier is dynamically adjusted to achieve a constant output of the optical amplifier of the incoming optical power. This is achieved by a close loop monitor (Fig. 2), which measures the voltage drop by using a low-pass filter. The resulting value is compared with the desired value and used to correct the gain of the amplifier. This approach is justifiably used because only the gain needs to be controlled in the amplifier. The wide equalization approach is the wide equalization grating and semiconductor amplifier (high resolution achieved by the small spacing). Furthermore, crosstalk is virtually nonexistent in this system. - The power consumption required for amplification can be reduced by the use of a control wavelength multiplexer can be realized by optical grating and a planar waveguide gratings can be employed but it is improved to be practical. In particular the planar waveguide grating can avoid beam diffraction (2) semiconductor material which can be used with optical amplifiers. The optical amplifier can be realized with an array of semiconductor material such as wide bandwidth multiple semiconductor material. Similar to the wavelength multiplexer, optical amplifier can be realized with waveguide grating. It should be noted that the multiplexer, optical amplifier, and demultiplexer can be totally integrated by using semiconductor material. Refer to P. R. Morkel and D. N. Payne, "Optical Amplifier (EDFA) with Broad Spectrum Amplification," *IEEE Meeting on Optical Amplifier Applications*, G. L. Gile and D. J. Giovanni, "Dynamic Two-stage Fiber Amplifiers," *IEEE Vol. 2, No. 12*, 866-868 (December 1990). Kominato and H. Toba, "Tunable Mach-Zehnder Optical Filter in Semiconductor Material," *IEEE Photonics Technology Letters* (1991). 4] F. Su, R. Olshansky, Baran, "Use of Acoustooptic Tunable WDM Lightwave Systems," *OFC Proceedings*, Emura, M. Shibutani, I. Cha, M. "Coherent Optical Tapping Using Optical Amplifier," *IEEE Photonic Technology Letters* (August 1990).

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